

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 07105 01 OF 02 031533Z

46

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 OMB-01 AEC-11 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20

ACDE-00 SAM-01 NEA-10 AECE-00 DRC-01 /162 W

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P R 031521Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2240

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07105

VIENNA FOR USMBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS--FRG VIEWS ON EVE OF ROUND
THREE

REF: STATE 90116

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING MAY 3 VISIT BY US MBFR DEL DEPUTY
REPRESENTATIVE DEAN, FONOFF MBFR DEPT. CHIEF RUTH PRO-
VIDED CURRENT GERMAN THINKING ON COMMON CEILING, NON-
INCREASE OF FORCES AGREEMENT, THE "FIXED PERIOD OF TIME",
GENERAL COMMITMENT OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO REDUCE, AND
NON-CIRCUMVENTION. MAJOR GERMAN EMPHASIS WAS ON RETEN-
TION OF ALLIED GOAL OF GROUND FORCE COMMON CEILING.
SEPTEL COVERS DEAN'S DISCUSSION OF MBFR ISSUES WITH
FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL, AND RUTH'S RELATED
POINTS ON VERIFICATION, NUCLEAR ELEMENTS AND FORM OF
MBFR I AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY

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PAGE 02 BONN 07105 01 OF 02 031533Z

1. GENERAL - US MBFR DEL DEPUTY REP DEAN, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF, MET MAY 3 WITH FONOFF MBFR DEPT. CHIEF RUTH TO SOUND OUT GERMAN THINKING PRIOR TO RESUMPTION OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. DEAN REVIEWED US DEL VIEWS, AS REFLECTED IN GUIDANCE FOR NEXT NEGOTIATING ROUND. RUTH'S COMMENTS REPORTED BELOW.

2. COMMON CEILING - ON ALL POINTS INVOLVING ASSURANCES TO SOVIETS REGARDING AN MBFR II PHASE, RUTH STRESSED CONDITION THAT RUSSIANS MUST ACCEPT COMMON CEILING CONCEPT IN MBFR I AGREEMENT. HE VOICED HOPE THAT FORMULATION COULD BE AS CONCRETE AS POSSIBLE AND, IN PARTICULAR, THAT SOVIETS COULD BE BROUGHT TO ACCEPT 700,000 OR AGREEABLE COMMON CEILING FORCE FIGURE IN MBFR I AGREEMENT, THUS AVOIDING MAJOR BATTLE ON THIS FUNDAMENTAL MATTER IN MBFR II NEGOTIATIONS.

3. NON-INCREASE OF FORCES AGREEMENT - RUTH RECALLED FRG SUPPORT FOR AND PAPER ON NON-INCREASE OF FORCE AGREEMENT, BUT QUICKLY ADDED STRONG GERMAN OPPOSITION TO INCLUSION OF EQUIPMENT. HE NOTED THAT FREEZE ON SOVIET TANKS WILL IN ANY EVENT BE RESULT OF MBFR I IF WESTERN POSITION PREVAILS. RUTH ALSO OPPOSED BRINGING "OTHER ELEMENTS" -- I.E., AIR FORCES -- INTO SUCH AN AGREEMENT, ASSERTING THAT THIS WOULD UNDERMINE THEORETICAL BASIS OF GROUND FORCE COMMON CEILING GOAL. HE ACKNOWLEDGED AND UNDERSCORED POINT THAT SOVIET ACCEPTANCE IN MBFR I AGREEMENT OF COMMON CEILING WOULD BE ALLIED CONDITION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF FLA TYPE AGREEMENT. HE ALSO ASSUMED SOVIETS WOULD PRESS FOR ACROSS THE BOARD FREEZE--INCLUDING NUCLEAR AND AIR FORCES. BUT RUTH STATED THAT "SOVIETS MUST BE LEFT IN NO DOUBT WHATEVER THAT ANY NON-GROUND FORCE ELEMENT TREATED IN MBFR I (PRESUMABLY IN FLA) MUST BE DEEMED SUPPLEMENTARY OR EXTRA."

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PAGE 01 BONN 07105 02 OF 02 031530Z

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 07105

4. FIXED PERIOD OF TIME - RUTH SAID FRG SHARES WISH THAT ENTIRE IMPLEMENTATION OF SOVIET MBFR I WITHDRAWALS OCCUR BEFORE CONVENING OF MBFR II NEGOTIATIONS. HE FELT IT PREMATURE, AT THIS TIME, TO DEFINE AMOUNT OF TIME REQUISITE FOR IMPLEMENTATION. HE THOUGHT FRG WOULD NOT PRESS FOR QUICK OPENING OF PHASE II, GIVEN TIME THAT WILL BE NEEDED TO REACH AGREED ALLIED POSITION ON REPARTITION OF WESTERN REDUCTIONS, VERIFICATION AND OTHER ISSUES.

5. GENERAL COMMITMENT TO REDUCE - AS HE HAS IN THE PAST, RUTH EXPRESSED RECOGNITION THAT, FOR LINKAGE PURPOSES, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY AT SOME POINT TO ASSURE SOVIETS THAT "ALL" DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WOULD JOIN IN MBFR II REDUCTIONS. HE STRONGLY FAVORED VERY GENERAL ORAL STATEMENT TO SOVIETS INITIALLY, WITH PRECISE FORMULATION APPEARING IN MBFR I AGREEMENT TO BE ELABORATED LATER.

6. NON-CIRCUMVENTION--HUNGARIAN ISSUE - RUTH AGAIN EMPHASIZED GERMAN WISH TO COVER HUNGARY IN NON-CIRCUM-
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SECRET

PAGE 02 BONN 07105 02 OF 02 031530Z

VENTION AGREEMENT, STRESSING THAT KEY FRG INTEREST IS IN LEVEL OF SOVIET RATHER THAN HUNGARIAN FORCES. HENCE, GERMANS WANT SOVIET COMMITMENT ON THIS SCORE, IN NON-CIRCUMVENTION AGREEMENT IF POSSIBLE. FRG ALSO CONSIDERING IMPLICATIONS, ALSO FOR FLANKS, OF COVERAGE OF HUNGARIAN NON-INCREASE AGREEMENT.
HILLENBRAND

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